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Work and Workers.

THE agents and correspondents of the American Bible Society employed last year 382 men, each working on an average of more than eight months.

A *Sketch of Jewish History*, translated from the German of Dr. Gustav Karpeles, has just been sent out by the Jewish Publication Society of America.

MR. HENRY FROWDE announces for early publication in America *The Bible References of John Ruskin*, selected and arranged by Misses Mary and Ellen Gibbs.

MESSRS. GRENFELL AND HUNT, of papyrus fame, have gone to Egypt again. They intend to make a more careful examination of the papyri left in the Gizeh Museum.

PROFESSOR R. G. MOULTON'S *Modern Reader's Bible* has reached the New Testament, of which the first volume, containing Matthew, Mark, and the general epistles, will soon appear.

MR. GEORGE HENRY TOMKINS, whose work on *The Life and Times of Joseph* has been of such good service to students, has just put out another book, on *Abraham and his Age* (Eyre & Spottiswoode).

The Author marshals an imposing list of figures to exhibit the classes of new books of last year. Of the 1941 English books enumerated we find 221 credited to theological thought—not a poor showing.

THE Græco-Roman branch of the Egypt Exploration Fund has met with great popular favor. It now looks as if the greater part of the 750 copies of Vol. I of the Oxyrhynchus papyri would be ordered in advance.

Aspects of the Old Testament is the title of the Bampton Lectures for 1897. Their author is Robert Lawrence Ottley, M.A., successively student of Christ Church and fellow of Magdalen College, sometime principal of Pusey House.

DURING the past sixteen years 171,000 copies of the Scriptures have been distributed in Asiatic Russia, through the efforts of the American Bible Society, while the number thus distributed in the whole empire is over half a million.

PROFESSOR JOSEPH SCHROEDER, lately of the Catholic University, Washington, D. C., has been appointed by the Prussian minister of education and ecclesiastical affairs a member of the faculty of the Catholic Academy of Münster, Westphalia.

THE Jewish Chautauqua Society of Philadelphia sends us an interesting syllabus of a reading course in "Jewish History and Literature," covering the period of "The Crusades and the Spanish Era," and prepared under the direction of Professor Richard Gottheil, of Columbia University.

TWO BOOKS, with practically the same end in view, have just been issued on opposite sides of the Atlantic: on this side we have Crockett's *Harmony of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles* (Eaton & Mains, New York), and on the other side, *The Parallel History of the Jewish Monarchy* (C. J. Clay & Sons, London).

THOSE who are interested in the use of blackboard illustrations in Sunday-school work may be glad to know that the United Society of Christian Endeavorers has published a series of paper stencils by N. S. Greet. Anyone, no matter how little his skill in drawing, will be able by the use of these stencils to give a blackboard talk.

IN the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Albany, New York, the pastor, Rev. Wallace H. Butrick, is giving a series of studies upon the "Life of Jesus Christ." Each lecture has a printed outline, on the back of which there is a map of Palestine. The outline is thoroughly analyzed, with the necessary references to the gospels, and is admirably done.

PROFESSOR FRANK H. FOSTER, of the Pacific Theological Seminary, is with others engaged in organizing a theological society in the Pacific Seminary, for the scientific discussion of questions of current interest in systematic theology. Such a society, its founders hope, will stimulate interest in the discussion and promote soundness of belief.

IN the *Threshold Covenant* Dr. Clay Trumbull (Scribner's, \$2) has gathered together an immense amount of material showing how the threshold and door have always been of some significance in primitive religion. In illustration of this we have a new explanation of

the "Hebrew Passover Sacrifice," and a new illustration of the "Christian Passover." However much we may hesitate to accept without further consideration the relationship of the facts to Christian teaching, the volume is an important addition to the history of religious origins, and is a worthy companion of the author's *Blood Covenant*.

DR. BLISS' latest find at Jerusalem is a small seal, hereafter to be known as the Ophel seal. It is in appearance very similar to the Haggai seal. Its characters are old Hebrew of a date not later than the Return. One reading of the seal is *Reaiah*, which occurs in Ezra 2 : 47. It is slightly damaged, hence the reading is, at the present, in some doubt.

M. GAYET discovered in a district adjacent to Antinoë a necropolis with walls of Egyptian, Græco-Roman, Ptolemaic, and Byzantine origin. Here he found Roman and Byzantine dresses, masks, mosaics, and frescoes, all in a good state of preservation. We can thus see the vestures worn by Greeks and Romans in that day; also see the possible origin of some of the fantasies of dress of the present day.

THE *English Polychrome Bible* makes its *début* with Parts 7, 10, and 14—the book of Judges, translated by Professor Geo. F. Moore, of Andover Theological Seminary (\$1.25); the book of the Prophet Isaiah, translated by Professor T. K. Cheyne, of Oxford, England (\$2.50); and the book of Psalms, translated by Professor Julius Wellhausen, of Göttingen, and Horace Howard Furness, of Philadelphia (\$2.50). (Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, N. Y.) They are a delight to the eyes.

REV. JAMES LEGGE, D.D., whose death we noted last month, was the first Chinese professor at Oxford, and one of the greatest of European scholars in Chinese. Professor Legge was born at Huntly, Aberdeenshire, and went to China in 1839, under the auspices of the London Missionary Society, where he worked as a missionary for thirty years. He was appointed to the professorship of Chinese at Oxford in 1876. As a Chinese scholar he was best known as the editor and translator of the nine Confucian treatises, which are the sacred books of China.

THE Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis held its annual meeting in the library building of Columbia University, December 28 and 29, 1897. The meetings were well attended. Among those who read papers were Professors Haupt, Paton, Robinson, Gottheil, Weber, Barton, Prince, Torrey, Porter, Rhees, Harmon, Bacon. All

the papers, with the exception of those of Professors Rhees, Harmon, and Bacon, were upon Old Testament subjects. Of these Professor Haupt read four, and Professors Paton and Gottheil each read two. Papers were also read by Hon. S. J. Barrows, of Washington, and Dr. W. H. Cobb, Recording Secretary of the society.

THE Guimet Museum of Paris has lately secured some of the most interesting Egyptian finds of M. Gayet. This *savant* has struck some rich treasures in exploring Hadrian's sepulchral and sacred city of Antinoe, on the banks of the Nile. Some favorite of that emperor died and was buried there. Last year M. Gayet came upon the remains of a temple, supposed to belong to Ramses II, for Hadrian had built on a site whose former city dated from that king. Now he finds that the temple is Roman. In pursuing his excavations, he further found, at a depth of three feet, about a half million jars standing upright and packed together. They were sealed, and contained some grain and some honey, with marks of wine and oil in others. The theory of M. Gayet is that these were offerings to the *manes* of Antinous, who was buried by the emperor.

THE American Baptist Publication Society has published a second edition of Professor W. C. Wilkinson's *Baptist Principle*. The work has been enlarged by the addition of nearly a half more new material, and will doubtless continue to be an almost classic presentation of the position of the Baptist denomination upon the subject of baptism and the Lord's Supper. The volume is not by any means narrow, but, as we find in chap. 30 expressly stated, is based upon the belief that there is an amount of room among Baptists for a diversity of opinion, and that discussion, and not controversy, is wanted. The volume contains, however, very clear evidence that Professor Wilkinson's positions are not those of compromise. They are clearly stated with the author's well-known literary skill, and the arguments well merit attention. The volume also contains a continuous plea for complete obedience of the Christian to his Master, as the main element of his religious life.